


IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
EASTERN DIVISION

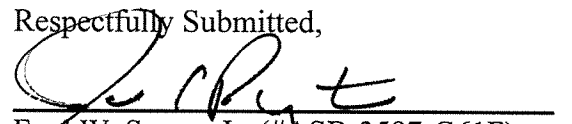
PATRICIA J. GIBSON,)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
v.)	Civil Action No. 3:06-CV-974-MEF
)	
WESTPOINT STEVENS INC.,)	
and WESTPOINT HOME, INC.,)	
)	
Defendants.)	
_____)	

JOINT MOTION FOR CONSENT PROTECTIVE ORDER

COME NOW the Plaintiff, Patricia Gibson, and the Defendant, WestPoint Home, Inc. (collectively the "parties"), and submit they have stipulated that certain discovery material is and should be treated as confidential, and have agreed on terms for protecting it in the attached proposed Consent Protective Order. The parties move for approval of the proposed Consent Protective Order.

This 21st day of February, 2007.


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Respectfully Submitted,

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ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANTS

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
EASTERN DIVISION**

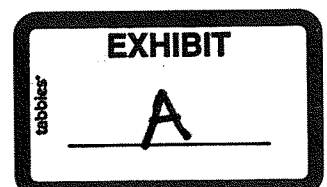
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CONSENT PROTECTIVE ORDER

Whereas, the parties to this Consent Confidentiality Order (“parties”), have stipulated that certain discovery material is and should be treated as confidential, and have agreed to the terms of this order; accordingly, it is this ___ day of _____, 2007, ORDERED:

1. **Scope.** All documents produced in the course of discovery, all responses to discovery requests and all deposition testimony and deposition exhibits and any other materials which may be subject to discovery (hereinafter collectively “documents”) shall be subject to this Order concerning confidential information as set forth below.

2. **Form and Timing of Designation.** Confidential documents shall be so designated by placing or affixing the word “CONFIDENTIAL” on the document in a manner which will not interfere with the legibility of the document and which will permit complete removal of the Confidential designation. Documents shall be designated CONFIDENTIAL before, or contemporaneously with, the production or disclosure of the documents, except for documents produced before the entry of this Order, which may be so marked within 30 days of the date of this Order. Inadvertent or unintentional production of documents without prior



designation as confidential shall not be deemed a waiver, in whole or in part, of the right to designate documents as confidential as otherwise allowed by this Order.

3. **Documents Which May be Designated Confidential.** Any party may designate documents as confidential but only after review of the documents by an attorney who has, in good faith, determined that the documents contain information protected from disclosure by statute, sensitive personal information, trade secrets, or confidential research, development, or commercial information, including but not limited to: the Plaintiff's federal and state income tax returns, documents from the personnel or employment files of any of Defendants' current or former employees, documents relating to the medical condition of Defendants' former or current employees, documents relating to Defendants' finances, revenues, profits, losses, expenses, and customer accounts, and any other documents which a party in good faith designates as "confidential information." The certification shall be made concurrently with the disclosure of the documents, using Attachment A which shall be executed subject to the standards of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11. Information or documents which are available to the public may not be designated as confidential.

4. **Depositions.** Portions of depositions shall be deemed confidential only if designated as such when the deposition is taken or within seven business days after receipt of the transcript. Any designation shall be specific as to the portions to be protected.

5. **Protection of Confidential Material.**

a. **General Protections.** Documents designated CONFIDENTIAL under this Order shall not be used or disclosed by the parties or counsel for the parties or any other persons identified below (§ 5.b.) for any purposes whatsoever other than preparing

for and conducting the litigation in which the documents were disclosed (including any appeal of that litigation).

b. **Limited Third Party Disclosures.** The parties and counsel for the parties shall not disclose or permit the disclosure of any documents designated CONFIDENTIAL under the terms of this Order to any other person or entity except as set forth in subparagraphs (1)-(5) below, and then only after the person to whom disclosure is to be made has executed an acknowledgment (in the form set forth at Attachment B), that he or she has read and understands the terms of this Order and is bound by it. Subject to these requirements, the following categories of persons may be allowed to review documents which have been designated CONFIDENTIAL pursuant to this Order:

(1) Counsel and employees of counsel for the parties who have responsibility for the preparation and trial of the lawsuit;

(2) Parties and employees of a party to this Order but only to the extent counsel shall certify that the specifically named individual party or employee's assistance is necessary to the conduct of the litigation in which the information is disclosed¹;

(3) Court reporters engaged for depositions and those persons, if any, specifically engaged for the limited purpose of making photocopies of documents;

¹ At or before the time such party or employee completes his or her acknowledgment of review of this Order and agreement to be bound by it (Attachment B), counsel shall complete a certification in the form shown at Attachment C. Counsel shall retain the certification together with the form signed by the party or employee.

(4) Consultants, investigators, or experts (hereafter collectively “experts”) employed by the parties or counsel for the parties to assist in the preparation and trial of the lawsuit;

(5) Trial witnesses, deponents, the Court, jurors; and

(6) Other persons only upon consent of the producing party or upon order of the court and on such conditions as are agreed to or ordered.

c. **Control of Documents.** Counsel for the parties shall take reasonable efforts to prevent unauthorized disclosure of documents designated as Confidential pursuant to the terms of this order. Counsel shall maintain a record of those persons, including employees of counsel, who have reviewed or been given access to the documents along with the originals of the forms signed by those persons acknowledging their obligations under this Order.

d. **Copies.** All copies, duplicates, extracts, summaries or descriptions (hereafter collectively “copies”), of documents designated as Confidential under this Order or any portion of such a document, shall be immediately affixed with the designation “CONFIDENTIAL” if the word does not already appear on the copy. All such copies shall be afforded the full protection of this Order.

6. **Filing of Confidential Materials.** In the event a party seeks to file any material that is subject to protection under this Order with the court, that party shall take appropriate action to insure that the documents receive proper protection from public disclosure including: (1) redacting all sensitive information for filed documents such as medical condition(s), social security numbers, and date of birth; or (2) seeking permission to file the document under seal consistent with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Absent extraordinary circumstances

making prior consultation impractical or inappropriate, the party seeking to submit the document to the court under seal shall first consult with counsel for the party who designated the document as confidential to determine if some measure less restrictive than filing the document under seal may serve to provide adequate protection. Nothing in this Order shall be construed as a prior directive to the Clerk of Court to allow any document be filed under seal. The parties understand that documents may be filed under seal only with the permission of the court after proper motion.

7. **Greater Protection of Specific Documents.** No party may withhold information from discovery on the ground that it requires protection greater than that afforded by this Order unless the party moves for an Order providing such special protection, provided, however, that documents may be withheld on the grounds of attorney-client privilege or attorney work product so long as the party complies with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(A). The provisions of this Order shall not affect the admissibility of evidence at trial or any preliminary evidentiary proceeding in open court, except as directed by separate order entered for good cause shown.

8. **Challenges to Designation as Confidential.** Any CONFIDENTIAL designation is subject to challenge. The following procedures shall apply to any such challenge.

a. The burden of proving the necessity of a CONFIDENTIAL designation remains with the party asserting confidentiality.

b. A party who contends that documents designated CONFIDENTIAL are not entitled to confidential treatment shall give written notice to the party who affixed the designation of the specific basis for the challenge. The party who so designated the documents shall have fifteen (15) days from service of the written notice to determine if the dispute can be resolved without judicial intervention and, if not, to move for an Order confirming the Confidential designation.

c. Notwithstanding any challenge to the designation of documents as confidential, all material previously designated CONFIDENTIAL shall continue to be treated as subject to the full protections of this Order until one of the following occurs:

(1) the party who claims that the documents are confidential withdraws such designation in writing;

(2) the party who claims that the documents are confidential fails to move timely for an Order designating the documents as confidential as set forth in paragraph 8.b. above; or

(3) the court rules that the documents should no longer be designated as confidential information.

d. Challenges to the confidentiality of documents may be made at any time and are not waived by the failure to raise the challenge at the time of initial disclosure or designation.

9. Treatment on Conclusion of Litigation.

a. **Order Remains in Effect.** All provisions of this Order restricting the use of documents designated CONFIDENTIAL shall continue to be binding after the conclusion of the litigation unless otherwise agreed or ordered.

b. **Return of CONFIDENTIAL Documents.** Within thirty (30) days after the conclusion of the litigation, including conclusion of any appeal, all documents treated as confidential under this Order, including copies as defined above (§5.d.) shall be returned to the producing party if requested by that party unless: (1) the document has been entered as evidence or filed (unless introduced or filed under seal); (2) the parties stipulate to destruction in lieu of return; or (3) as to documents containing the notations,

summations, or other mental impressions of the receiving party, that party elects destruction. Notwithstanding the above requirements to return or destroy documents, counsel may retain attorney work product including an index which refers or relates to information designated CONFIDENTIAL so long as that work product does not duplicate verbatim substantial portions of the text of confidential documents. This work product continues to be Confidential under the terms of this Order. An attorney may use his or her work product in a subsequent litigation provided that its use does not disclose the confidential documents.

10. **Order Subject to Modification.** At any time including trial, this Order shall be subject to modification on motion of any party or any other person who may show an adequate interest in the matter to intervene for purposes of addressing the scope and terms of this Order. The Order shall not, however, be modified until the parties shall have been given notice and an opportunity to be heard on the proposed modification.

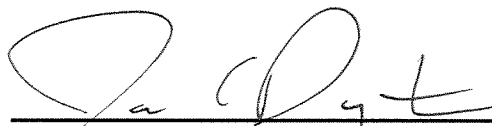
11. **No Judicial Determination.** This Order is entered based on the representations and agreements of the parties and for the purpose of facilitating discovery. Nothing herein shall be construed or presented as a judicial determination that any specific document or item of information designated as CONFIDENTIAL by counsel is subject to protection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26 (c) or otherwise until such time as a document-specific ruling shall have been made.

12. **Persons Bound.** This Order shall take effect when entered and shall be binding upon: (1) counsel who signed below and their respective law firms; and (2) their respective clients.

AGREED AND ACCEPTED:



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ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF



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Birmingham, Alabama 35203-2118
Telephone: (205) 328-1900
Facsimile: (205)328-6000
E-Mail: james.pennington@odnss.com
ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT

IT IS SO ORDERED this _____ day of _____, 2007.

Mark E. Fuller
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

ATTACHMENT A

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
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PATRICIA J. GIBSON,)	
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Plaintiffs,)	
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WESTPOINT STEVENS INC.,)	
and WESTPOINT HOME, INC.,)	
)	
Defendants.)	
_____)	

CERTIFICATION BY COUNSEL OF DESIGNATION OF INFORMATION
AS CONFIDENTIAL

Documents produced herewith whose bates numbers are listed on the attached index have been marked as CONFIDENTIAL subject to the Confidentiality Order entered in this action which Order is dated _____, 2007.

By signing below, I am certifying that I have personally reviewed the marked documents and believe, based on that review that they are properly subject to protection under the terms of Paragraph 3 of the Confidentiality Order.

Date

Signature of Counsel

Printed Name of Counsel

ATTACHMENT B

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
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Defendants.)	
_____)	

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

The undersigned hereby acknowledges that he or she has read the **Confidentiality Order** dated _____, 2007, in the above captioned action, understands the terms thereof, and agrees to be bound by such terms. The undersigned submits to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama in matters relating to the Confidentiality Order and understands that the terms of said Order obligate him/her to use discovery materials designated CONFIDENTIAL solely for the purposes of the above-captioned action, and not to disclose any such confidential information to any other person, firm or concern.

The undersigned acknowledges that violation of the Stipulated Confidentiality Order may result in penalties for contempt of court.

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Employer: _____

Business Address: _____

Date: _____

Signature

ATTACHMENT C

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
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**CERTIFICATION OF COUNSEL OF NEED
FOR ASSISTANCE OF PARTY/EMPLOYEE**

Pursuant to the Confidentiality Order entered in this action, most particularly the provisions of Paragraph 5.b.2., I certify that the assistance of _____ is reasonably necessary to the conduct of this litigation and that this assistance requires the disclosure to this individual of information which has been designated as CONFIDENTIAL.

I have explained the terms of the Confidentiality Order to the individual named above and will obtain his or her signature on an "Acknowledgment of Understanding and Agreement to be Bound" prior to releasing any confidential documents to the named individual and I will release only such confidential documents as are reasonably necessary to the conduct of the litigation.

The individual named above is:

- ☐ A named party;
- ☐ An employee of named party _____. This employee's job title is _____ and work address is _____.

Date: _____

Signature